

**In the United States Court of Federal Claims**

No. 21-991C

(Filed: April 12, 2021)

**NOT FOR PUBLICATION**

\*\*\*\*\*  
BRENDA ARMSTEAD, \*  
\*  
Plaintiff, \*  
\*  
v. \*  
\*  
THE UNITED STATES, \*  
\*  
Defendant. \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

**ORDER**

Ms. Brenda Armstead, proceeding *pro se*, filed this civil action against the United States of America. To proceed with a civil action in this Court, a plaintiff must either pay \$402.00 in fees—a \$350.00 filing fee plus a \$52.00 administrative fee—or request authorization to proceed without prepayment of fees by submitting a signed application to proceed *in forma pauperis* (“IFP”). *See* 28 U.S.C. §§ 1914, 1915.

Ms. Armstead submitted her complaint without the filing fees or a completed IFP application. In an order dated February 26, 2021, this Court ordered Ms. Armstead to either pay the \$402.00 in required fees or submit an IFP application within thirty days. *See* Order (ECF 6). To date, Ms. Armstead has failed to comply with this Court’s previous order.

This Court may dismiss a case for failure to prosecute when the plaintiff “fails ... to comply with these rules or a court order.” RCFC 41(b). Here, Plaintiff’s failure to comply with an order directing her to pay the filing fee or establish grounds for proceeding *in forma pauperis* justifies dismissal. *See, e.g., Bryant v. United States*, 618 F. App’x 683, 686 (Fed. Cir. 2015) (“If a party fails to pay the requisite filing fee, despite adequate notice and ample opportunity to do so, the Claims Court acts within its discretion when it dismisses the action.”). As a result, this action is dismissed without prejudice for failure to prosecute under Rule 41 of the Rules of the United States Court of Federal Claims.

The Clerk of the Court is directed to enter judgment accordingly.

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

s/ Stephen S. Schwartz  
STEPHEN S. SCHWARTZ  
Judge